

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 22, 2012

The Honorable John L. Mica
Chairman
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mica,

As we have said in previous letters, our country as a whole is in need of a long, multi-year surface transportation authorization bill. We understand this is a difficult process, but we remain hopeful Senate conferees will work with the House to achieve a long-term bill rather than yet another short-term extension.

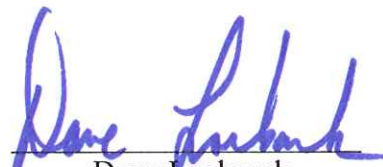
As negotiations continue, we want to reiterate our support for a very important program. In our letter to you on April 26, 2012 we encouraged you to support programs like the Projects of National and Regional Significance to help build much-needed infrastructure in our country. We have been alerted that those fighting for this program in the Senate are facing opposition from some members of the House and hope you agree we must continue to support programs and grants that would allow these large scale projects to go forward.

Projects that fall in this category are high in cost and large in scope and for that reason federal support is necessary for them to go forward. These projects affect localities directly through economic development and more jobs. We encourage you and your fellow conferees to support the Projects of National and Regional Significance program and include it in the longest-term transportation bill possible.

This Congress has been able to achieve a long-term Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization and we believe this bipartisan work ethic can be repeated again with a surface transportation bill. We appreciate your time and consideration of our concerns and the priorities of the 17th District of Illinois and the 2nd District of Iowa.

Sincerely,


Bobby Schilling
House of Representatives


Dave Loebsack
House of Representatives

CC: surface transportation conferees